

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 229121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SENV, US, CA

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE WITH U.S. AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS

REF: OTTAWA 2631

1. THERE ARE TWO EPA INSPECTION ACTIVITIES CONTEMPLATED
UNDER THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE VEHICLE CERTIFICATION
REGULATIONS:

(1) INSPECTION OF RECORDS, DOCUMENTS AND FACILI-
TIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONDUCT OF CERTIFICATION BY ANY
MANUFACTURER WHO SELLS VEHICLES IN THE U.S. TO THE BEST
OF EPA'S KNOWLEDGE NO MANUFACTURERS CURRENTLY PERFORM ANY
CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES IN CANADA. RATHER THE VEHICLES
PRODUCED IN CANADA FOR SALE IN THE U.S. ARE CERTIFIED IN
THE U.S. BY U.S. COMPANIES WHICH HAVE PLANTS AND MARKETS
IN CANADA. THUS, ON THIS TYPE OF INSPECTION, GOC NEED HAVE
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NO CONCERN UNLESS A MANUFACTURER DECIDES TO CERTIFY

VEHICLES IN CANADA WHICH WILL BE SOLD IN THE U.S.

(2) INSPECTION OF PRODUCTION VEHICLES AND ASSEMBLY LINE TESTING MAY BE CONDUCTED BY EPA OFFICIALS AT THE PRODUCTION FACILITY. THE PURPOSES OF THESE INSPECTIONS ARE (1) IN THE CASE OF VEHICLES, TO DETERMINE IF THEY ARE BUILT TO THE SAME DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS THAT APPLIED TO VEHICLES DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICATION FOR USEPA CERTIFICATION, AND

(2) IN THE CASE OF ASSEMBLY LINE TESTING, TO MONITOR THE TESTING AND REVIEW RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING SUCH TESTING. THE FORMER TYPE OF INSPECTION IS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY EPA, WHEREAS THE LATTER HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE A USEPA ASSEMBLY LINE TEST HAS NOT BEEN PRESCRIBED.

2. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO GOC THAT EPA REGULATIONS MAY INVOLVE ON-SITE INSPECTION IN CANADA. USG IS, OF COURSE, WILLING TO CONSULT WITH GOC PRIOR TO UNDERTAKING SUCH INSPECTIONS. PRESENTATION OF EPA PAPER, WHICH EXPLAINS PROCEDURES AND RATIONALE FOR EPA ACTIVITIES ABROAD, COULD BE CONSIDERED FIRST STEP IN SUCH CONSULTATIONS. ACCORDINGLY EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM GOC THAT USG WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS ANY ASPECTS OF EPA INSPECTION ACTIVITIES. KISSINGER

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